

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC

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personal character, his breeding and attainments as a man of the world have made him a recognized leader in the English society. His Queen has emulated him, and his countrymen have dedicated to him.

Less distinguished, fellowcraftsmen will doubtless hope to see the great English actor among the Temple Israel congregation. The annual public would not fail to appreciate the special significance of his participation in the day's services. His is too recently typical a figure to be absent from such a gathering.

DOCTOR RENO'S PLAN.

There is so much of plain business sense in the suggestion of Superintendent of the Missouri State Asylum for the establishment of an industrial training plant to supply the needs of that institution, the Missouri and the Missouri Hospital that it demands practical consideration with a view to its early adoption.

The plan seems eminently feasible. The three institutions named are grouped closely together and could easily be supplied from the same plant. The Missouri Asylum has an ample house for this purpose. It is not at all ready the necessary equipment. It should not be a matter of very great expense to supply an adequate equipment. These three important institutions would then be independent of private corporations and contractors.

If the city has not the funds necessary for the establishment of such a plant, there should be little trouble in inducing local capital to invest in the enterprise. Leaving public spirit and civic pride out of the calculation, there would be a reasonable rate of return assured from such an investment, and at a cost to the city very much less than must otherwise be paid for the training of these institutions. With a plant once established in this manner, a fund could be set aside by degrees for the payment of the amount of bond capital invested, at which time the city would come into the ownership of the plant.

It is certainly worth while for the municipal government to consider Doctor Fisher's plan. It will be a waste of opportunity not to utilize the existing advantages contained in the location of these three institutions and the facilities as a central supply point already enjoyed by the Missouri Asylum. The suggestion of the Superintendent of the latter place is earnestly referred to the attention of the city government.

REALITY OF WAR.

It is not natural that Great Britain should be intensely solicitous as to the results of the general aggressive movement of advance now being made by the entire strength of the British armies facing the Transvaal frontiers in South Africa.

This movement is by far the most important yet made in the course of a subterranean and bloody conflict. It is merely a frontal attack on the Boer lines of defense, in which the British are at a terrible disadvantage. The success of the attack is so imperative for the restoration of British prestige that it must be made by the most exceptional readiness verging on desperation.

If Buller, having now a foothold on the north bank of the Tugela River, shall succeed in driving the Boers from the entrenched positions now held by them in his front, a new phase will be assumed by a campaign that has so far been woefully discouraging to British arms. A revived spirit of hopefulness and confidence will take the place of deep chagrin and depression. This spirit is necessary if the army in South Africa as now organized is to become an effective army of invasion.

Should the Boers, stubbornly defending their homes and liberties, once more repulse the British and drive them back across the Tugela, the outlook will be anything but bright for the latter. The best that can then be hoped for will necessarily come from a long delay, during which Generals Roberts and Buller must thoroughly reorganize a dispirited army and readjust the plan of campaign. In that interval of waiting, the Boers would also greatly strengthen their own defenses and organization. It is not difficult to believe that British disaster in the movement now under way shall ultimately prove to have marked the collapse of the British effort in South Africa.

WE TOLD HER SO.

Chicago is at present suffering under the effect of one of the difficulties to which the St. Louis Drainage Canal Committee called attention in its report of April 9, 1898, the effect of the canal on the harbor and shipping interests of Chicago.

Chicago has found that even the small amount of water she at present turns into the Drainage Canal, less than half the amount required by law, has lowered the level of the river so that there is not sufficient depth of channel for the ships which have docked in the river before. She is now considering the deepening of the channel. This is not an easy matter. Under the Chicago River run the tunnels of a number of street railways. The dip of these tunnels has been made only sufficient to carry them under the river, with nothing to spare. The deepening of the river, therefore, may mean the lowering of the tunnels.

When Chicago has accomplished this work and again begins to send her water through the river she will have to contend with the other difficulties to which the St. Louis engineers called her attention. To carry the required amount of water, she will have to supply a clear channel, free from all obstruction by bridge piers in the river, and even then the swiftness of the stream, if it discharges the required amount of water, will make exceedingly difficult the task of handling the big lake steamers.

The other points to which St. Louis engineers called attention in their report are:

1. The capacity of the canal.
2. The way it is proposed to convey water from the lake to the canal.
3. The sufficiency of the means provided to control the flow.
4. The ability of the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers to receive the flow in times of flood.
5. The adjustment of liability for damage.
6. The effect of the removal of the dam at Henry and Copperas Creek upon navigation in the Illinois River and

on the Illinois and Mississippi Canal now being constructed by the United States.

The international question of the effect on the Great Lakes.

Even leaving out the question of river pollution on which St. Louis is basing her present legal proceedings in the United States Supreme Court, Chicago has a disconcerting array of contingencies confronting her. The opposition is the work of an able, thoughtful engineer, and they were not obstructed in their conclusions by a drainage board which was in favor of proceeding with its work contrary to nature as well as human laws.

Before the canal is an established fact Chicago will probably wish she had followed the advice given by St. Louis engineers. We suggested that even now, after the expenditure of over \$2,000,000 by the Sanitary District, it would be wise to adopt another method of sewage disposal and to use the canal to carry off surface water, to afford docks, to manufacture power with surplus in salines, water power and a navigable waterway.

MISSOURI EDITORS.

St. Louis's welcome to the State editors now assembled here for the seventh winter meeting of the Missouri Press Association was spontaneously hearty and in accord with the whole-some influences represented by that distinguished body.

There is no class which stands so truly for the people of a State as that composed of the editors and proprietors of newspapers. They are unswerving in their loyalty to the popular mind and any other element of citizenship. Even in the most difficult of circumstances, they are naturally animated by a desire to enlighten the best of their respective localities. When they come together in annual session the highest material and moral aspirations of a State find its truest expression.

It is all Missouri, therefore, that is represented in the present gathering of Missouri editors. St. Louis extends its hospitality to the State which it well knows and entertains these men. Under such pleasant conditions there is a double welcome insured—one for the editors as editors, and one for the people of Missouri whose most faithful delegates they are.

HEPBURN OPPOSES THE CANAL TREATY.

He Strongly Condemns It as a Blow at the Monroe Doctrine.

That Is the British Government's Answer to a Question in the House of Commons.

BRITAIN SURRENDERS NOTHING.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Representative Hepburn, of New York, today introduced in the House of Representatives a resolution which has the effect of opposing the ratification of the Nicaragua Canal treaty with Great Britain.

Mr. Hepburn's resolution, which has the effect of opposing the ratification of the Nicaragua Canal treaty with Great Britain, was introduced in the House of Representatives today. The resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives today. The resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives today.

CENTRAL AMERICA PLEASED.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Official telegrams have been received by several of the Central American Republics from the United States, stating that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty concerning the Nicaragua Canal meets with general approval throughout Central America.

These favorable assurances come not only from the two countries most directly concerned, but also from Guatemala and Honduras, which are not directly concerned in the prospective advantages of the canal, but which are nevertheless interested in the development of the country. So far as Costa Rica is concerned, Minister Calles, the most hearty approval of the new treaty and the proposed canal, has been received from the Government. This sentiment is held by the Costa Rican Government.

As the proposed route of the waterway, which will connect the Gulf of Mexico with the Pacific Ocean, is in the hands of the United States, it is not surprising that the friendly assurances have been received from the Central American Republics. The friendly assurances have been received from the Central American Republics.

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